

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 IO-13  
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02  
PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 /131 W  
-----300607Z 029924 /14

R 291650 MAR 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6276  
INFO AMEMBASY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
MEMBASSY TOKYO 3856  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2378

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PARM, CCD  
SUBJECT: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING, MARCH 28, 1977

REF: (A) GENEVA 2294; (B) GENEVA 2260

1. SUMMARY: WESTERN GROUP MET ON MARCH 28 WITH CW  
EXPERTS PRESENT TO DISCUSS PROSPECTS AND TACTICS FOR  
INFORMAL MEETING OF CCD WITH EXPERTS ON CW SCHEDULED  
FOR WEEK OF MARCH 28. END SUMMARY

2. WESTERN GROUP, WITH CW EXPERTS, MET MORNING  
MARCH 28, TO DISCUSS STRATEGY FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS ON  
CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THAT AFTERNOON.  
US REP (MYERS) DISTRIBUTED US STATEMENT ON CW FOR  
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MARCH 28 PLENARY AND ASKED IF ANY OTHER DELS WERE PLANNING  
OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON CW DURING WEEK OF INFORMALS.  
CANADA, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, AND UK SAID THEY WOULD  
RECORD STATEMENTS FOCUSING PRIMARILY ON UK DRAFT.

3. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PHASED APPROACH,

ASKING THAT ANY "STEP-BY-STEP" APPROACH BE BALANCED SO THAT NO STATE GAINS AN ADVANTAGE THAT MIGHT ENTICE IT NOT TO CONTINUE ON TO THE NEXT STEP TOWARD A TOTAL BAN ON CW. HE SAID ANY STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THREE PRINCIPLES:

- 1) ALL CONTRACTING PARTIES MUST BE ASSURED OF COMPLIANCE ON PART OF OTHER PARTIES;
- 2) DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKPILING FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES MUST NOT REPEAT NOT BE HAMPERED; AND
- 3) TERMS OF AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY STATE PARTIES.

4. UK EXPERT (HOLMES) POINTED OUT THAT ANY STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TO CW BAN ALREADY DISCRIMINATES AGAINST NATIONS WHO DO NOT POSSESS STOCKPILES OF CW.

5. DISCUSSION OF SCOPE OF PROHIBITION ENSUED AND NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REP (MEERBURG) STATED THAT HE THOUGHT ALL WESTERN GROUP MEMBERS WERE AGREED THAT ANY PHASED APPROACH WOULD INITIALLY BAN ALL LETHAL AGENTS. US EXPERT (MIKULAK) AGREED AND SAID USG IS READY TO CONSIDER INCLUDING ALL IN-CAPACITIATING AGENTS IN AN INTIAL AGREEMENT AS WELL, BUT THAT USG DOES NOT BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE HERBICIDES AND RIOT CONTROL AGENTS.

6. JAPANESE REP (OGISO) RAISED SUGGESTION MADE IN JAPANESE CW STATEMENT (REF A) OF ASCERTAINING GENERAL TRENDS IN CCD ON VERIFICATION AND SCOPE ISSUES AND ASKED IF CO-CHAIRMEN COULD BE PREPARED TO DO THIS. US REP SAID US WOULD HAVE A REAL PROBLEM WITH UNDERTAKING SUCH A TASK AT PRESENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIME; SAID MOST COMMENTS WOULD BE CENTERED ON UK DRAFT AND ASKED IF THIS WOULD NOT SERVE AS A "POINT OF CONDENSATION."

7. NETHERLANDS EXPERT (OOMS), REFERRING TO JAPANESE PROPOSAL TO ANNEX TABLES SPECIFYING CHEMICALS TO BE PROHIBITED, CONTROLLED, ETC., OPPOSED IDEA OF ATTACHING ANY SPECIFIC LIST TO TREATY WHICH HE SAID COULD BE "VERY DANGEROUS." LISTS SHOULD SERVE AS AID TO GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFICATION. JAPANESE REP SAID THAT WHILE GOJ PROPOSAL IS NOT FULLY FLESHED OUT WITH RESPECT TO HOW LISTS WOULD BE DEVELOPED AND MANAGED, IT WAS CONTEMPLATED THAT THERE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE REVIEW PROCESS. US AND UK EXPERTS AGREED WITH NETHERLANDS EXPERT AND STATED PREFERENCE FOR GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION AND TOXICITY STANDARD FOR DEALING WITH SINGLE PURPOSE AGENTS. CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED THAT "LIST" COULD EVOLVE "LIFE OF ITS OWN" AND INVITE STATES TO EVADE BY SEEKING LOOPHOLES.

8. IGALIAN REP (DI BERNARDO) ONCE AGAIN ASKED IF TIMING WAS RIGHT TO ESTABLISH CW WORKING GROUP FOR SUMMER SESSION. US REP SAID THAT,DUE TO STATE OF USG POLICY REVIEW, WE WERE STILL NOT READY TO SPECULATE ON TIMING.

9. US REP ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON CO-CHAIRMEN'S PROPOSAL ON PROCEDURES (REF B). ALL AGREED THAT THEY COULD ACCEPT IT ALTHOUGH UK AND CANADA SAID THEY WOULD OFFICIALLY RECORD UNHAPPINESS OVER DELETION OF SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO PROVISIONS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS BY NON-CCD MEMBERS IN TREATY NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

10. NEXT MEETING OF WESTERN GROUP WILL BE MORNING, MARCH 30. SORENSON

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
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